



HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH Parish Newsletter

New Parish Center: 20937 Ashburn Rd., #110, Ashburn, VA 26 June 2021

SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – ALL SAINTS

BEGIN THE WEEKS OF MATTHEW

READING FROM THE PROPHECY OF ISAIAH.

Thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, and formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name: you are mine. ²When you pass through the water, I will be with you; in the rivers you shall not drown. When you walk through fire, you shall not be burned; the flames shall not consume you. ³For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in return for you. ⁴Because you are precious in my eyes and glorious, and because I love you, I give men in return for you and peoples in exchange for your life. ⁵Fear not, for I am with you; from the East I will bring back your descendants, from the West I will gather you. ⁶I will say to the North: Give them up! and to the South: Hold not back! Bring back my sons from afar, and my daughters from the ends of the earth: ⁷Everyone who is named as mine, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

PROKIMENON, Tone VIII

Make vows* and pay them to the Lord our God. [v.11 NEB/RESTON]

PSALM 75

NOTE: This psalm is a hymn of triumph in which Jerusalem's victory is attributed primarily to God. He has overwhelmed the enemy and avenged the oppressed; to him therefore sacrifices of thanksgiving are due.

In Judah God makes himself known; in Israel his name is great. ²Salem became his den, and Sion, his lair.

³There he broke the attack of the archers, the shields and swords and weapons of war... ⁶At your roar, O God of Jacob, horse and chariot collapsed and lay stunned. ⁷How awesome you are!...

⁸...The earth shall shudder with fright and lie still, ⁹when God rises for judgment, to deliver the lowly of the earth. ¹⁰They will rejoice and praise you;... they will feast in your honor.

¹¹**Make vows and pay them to the Lord our God;** let all those around him bring gifts to him who sees, ¹²who fathoms the minds of princes, who strikes terror in the hearts of kings.

Reader: Make vows. **People:** And pay them to the Lord our God.



Saturday, July 3
Vespers at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 4
Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

As things relax around us, we must continue to be vigilant for peace of mind. There are over 678,000 cases of Covid-19 in Virginia. Vaccination must be seen as God's providence. Read the interesting tale on the last page here.

READING FROM THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS

BRETHREN: [¹¹1 Faith is the assurance of things hoped for and conviction of things not seen. ²Because of (faith) men of old won approval.] By faith all the saints conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained the promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴put out raging fires, escaped the edge of the sword, drew strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and turned back foreign invaders. ³⁵Women received back their dead raised to life. Some were tortured, refusing release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶Others endured mockery, scourging, even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned [to death], sawn in two, put to death at sword's point; they went about in skins of sheep or goats, needy, afflicted, tormented. ³⁸The world was not worthy of them. They wandered about in deserts and on mountains, in caves and in holes in the ground.

³⁹Yet all these, though approved because of their faith, did not receive what was promised. ⁴⁰God had foreseen something better for us, so that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

¹²¹We too then, having such a cloud of witnesses around us—as we set aside every encumbrance and the disadvantage of sin—with perseverance let us run the race that lies before us, ²looking to Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith. For the sake of the joy that lay before him he endured the cross—ignoring its shame—and has taken his seat at the right of God's throne. ³Consider how he endured such opposition from sinners, so that you may not grow weary and lose heart.

ALLELUIA

PSALM 33

NOTE: This portion of the psalm is an admonition to respect the Lord and keep his commandments. The Lord Jesus, true Servant of God, realizes the promise of these words (note verse 20).

¹¹Come, children, hear me; awe and respect for the Lord is my lesson for you.

¹²Who is there among you who delights in life, who looks for a long life to enjoy prosperity? ¹³Guard your tongue against malice, then, and your lips against words of guile. ¹⁴Avoid evil and do good; seek out peace and follow after it.

¹⁵The eyes of the Lord are on the just; his ears hear their cries of anguish. ¹⁶But the Lord turns his face

away from the wicked; all trace of them vanishes from the face of the earth.

¹⁷When the just cry out, the Lord hears, and he frees them from all their troubles. ¹⁸The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; he saves those who are crushed in spirit.

¹⁹It is woe upon woe for the just man, but the Lord will deliver him from them all. ²⁰For he keeps watchful care over every bone of his body: not one of them will be broken.

²¹But evil will reward the wicked with death, and he who despises the just will pay for it.

²²The Lord rescues the souls of his servants; those who take refuge in him shall never perish!

READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW.

THE LORD SAID: ¹⁰³²“Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. ³³But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father.... ³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.”

¹⁹²⁷ Then Peter said to him, “We have given up everything and followed you. What will there be for us?” ²⁸ Jesus said to them, “Amen, I say to you that you who have followed me, in the new age, when the Son of Man is seated on his throne of glory, will yourselves sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. ²⁹ And everyone who has given up houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands for the sake of my name will receive a hundred times more, and will inherit eternal life. ³⁰ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION

Tone VIII:

^{DO} From on high, O Lord so kind and loving, * you descended to this earth of ours: * And to free us from our passions, you suffered and died for us. * O our Life and Resurrection, * be pleased to hear our hymns of praise.

Troparion for the Saints, Tone IV:

Crimsoned with the blood of all your martyrs, O Christ, our God, * your Church cries out to you: * Bestow your mercies on all mankind, * and grant the world your lasting peace.

Another, Tone II:

Let us praise the Baptizer and Forerunner, with the Apostles, prophets, and martyrs; * let us hymn the hierarchs and all the martyred clergy, * the Christ-like and ascetic men and women, and all the just. * With hymns of praise, let us crown them as we should, * seeking a share in their glory at the hands of Christ, the Saviour.

Glory: Both now:

Kondakion, Tone VIII:

To you, creator of all things, * the universe presents the saints as first-fruits of creation. * For their sake, O Saviour rich in mercy, * preserve us all in holiness and peace through the Theotokos.

THE ÉKTENY or FERVENT PRAYER

(Ancient Penitential Litany and Prayer)

Let us all say with our whole soul,
and with our whole mind let us say:
Lord, have mercy.

O Lord almighty! O God of our fathers!
We pray you. Hear us and have mercy.

Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your great mercy!

We pray you. Hear us and have mercy.

Again we pray:

- For devout and Orthodox Christians.
- For our Archbishop Tikhon.
- For Ed and Janet and Andrea and Mildred and Ritz Bernadette, and for all who have asked for our prayers *NN...*: we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, pardon, and remission of their sins.
- For Orthodox Christians who are made to suffer on account of Christ, and we pray for those who persecute them.
- For Orthodox Christians and indeed all men who are victims of war and civil strife [and terror], of hunger and want, of intolerance and injustice.
- For physicians, nurses, care-givers, and all serving those infected with the virus; and for the thousands who have succumbed to the disease—and for all who will die today.

PRAYER OF THE ÉKTENY

Lord our God, accept this fervent prayer from your servants, and have mercy on us according to the greatness of your mercy. Send down your compassionate help upon us and upon all your people awaiting the rich mercy that comes from you.

For you are God, merciful and loving to man, and we render glory to you—to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

THE STORY BEHIND THE VACCINE.

(CNN) Covid-19 vaccines are starting to roll out in several countries, a momentous breakthrough that hopefully signals a light at the end of this dark pandemic. For Katalin Karikó, the moment is particularly special.

Karikó has spent decades of her career researching the therapeutic possibilities of mRNA, a component of DNA that is considered to be one of the main building blocks of life. Through multiple setbacks, job losses, doubt and a transatlantic move, Karikó stood by her conviction: That mRNA could be used for something truly groundbreaking. Now, that work is the basis of the Covid-19 vaccine.

Karikó, 65, began her career in her native Hungary in the 1970s, when mRNA research was new and the possibilities seemed endless. But the call of the American dream (and more researching and funding opportunities) took root.

In 1985, she and her husband and young daughter left Hungary for the US after she got an invitation from Temple University in Philadelphia. They sold their car, Karikó told *The Guardian*, and stuffed the money—an equivalent of about \$1,200—in their daughter's teddy bear for safekeeping.

“We had just moved into our new apartment, our daughter was 2 years old, everything was so good, we were happy,” Karikó told the Hungarian news site G7 of her family's departure. “But we had to go.”

She continued her research at Temple, and then at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Medicine. But by then, the bloom was off the rose of mRNA research, and Karikó's idea that it could be used to fight disease was deemed too radical, too financially risky to fund. She applied for grant after grant, but kept getting rejections, and in 1995, she was demoted from her position at UPenn. She also was diagnosed with cancer around the same time.

“Usually, at that point, people just say goodbye and leave because it's so horrible,” she told *Stat*, a health news site, in November. “I thought of going somewhere else, or doing something else. I also thought maybe I'm not good enough, not smart enough.”

But she stuck with it.

Eventually, Karikó and her former colleague at the University of Pennsylvania, Drew Weissman, developed



a method of utilizing synthetic mRNA to fight disease that involves changing the way the body produces virus-fighting material, she explained on CNN's “Cuomo Prime Time.”

That discovery is now the basis of the Covid-19 vaccine, and some have said both Weissman and Karikó, now a senior vice president of the Germany-based BioNTech, deserve a Nobel Prize.

“If anyone asks me whom to vote for some day down the line, I would put them front and center,” Derek Rossi, one of the founders of pharmaceutical giant Moderna, told *Stat*. “That fundamental discovery is going to go into medicines that help the world.”

While recognition, after all of this time, must be nice, Karikó says scientific glory isn't what's on her mind right now.

“Really, we will celebrate when this human suffering is over, when the hardship and all of this terrible time will end, and hopefully in the summer when we will forget about virus and vaccine. And then I will be really celebrating,” she told CNN's Chris Cuomo.

Karikó said she plans to get the vaccine soon, along with Weissman, and she said she's “very, very confident” it will work. After all, it was their discoveries that contributed to it.

In the meantime, Karikó said she allowed herself a little treat to celebrate the vaccine news: a bag of Goobers, her favorite candy.